



Private Sector Alliance Project

“Protecting Illinois is Everyone’s Responsibility. . .”

The above proclamation became even more significant following recent, tragic events in our nation. In the aftermath of the September 11, 2001 attacks and Hurricane Katrina, government, at all levels, prudently reexamined their protocols regarding security and preparedness. These events also demonstrated the need to look beyond the traditional boundaries of government for partnerships to assimilate information and make it actionable.

In Illinois, this effort has taken form in the recently established and still emerging **Private Sector Alliance Project (PSAp)**. The Project is a work in-progress; at the foundation of PSAP’s strategies is the call for the consolidation of goals to enhance homeland security and emergency pre-paredness. Under the purview of the **Illinois Terrorism Task Force (ITTF)**, the **Statewide Terrorism & Intelligence Center (STIC)**, and the **Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA)**, the Project is working to actively engage law enforcement, public safety, and members of the private sector to promote a culture of information sharing and partnership.

ISA

The first subset of this Project is the **Infrastructure Security Awareness Program (ISA)**. Using community policing initiatives, strategies, and tactics at its foundation, the ISA program looks to corporate security professionals as the primary keystone for the detection of suspicious activities associated with terrorism and other criminal activities. Members



“Government at the federal, state, and local level must actively collaborate and partner with the private sector; which controls 85 percent of America’s infrastructure.”

- The President’s National Strategy for Homeland Security

exchange critical, need-to-know/right-to-know (i.e., for official use only) information as well as that obtained within the corporate security community. Delivery and communication of this information, with an emphasis on infrastructure security and asset protection, is facilitated using an Internet portal provided by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) via ST&IC.

MAR₂N

Through the second section of this initiative, the **Mutual Aid Response Network (MAR₂N)**, critical components of Illinois government are in the early stages to unite with the private sector for a deployment clearinghouse of resources needed during emergency response and recovery. MAR₂N is designed to act as a force multiplier between the private sector and law enforcement/public safety to mitigate the impact of critical incidents, including natural disasters and acts of terrorism. The clearinghouse will contain resources available from the private sector through Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) and include reimbursement and terms of use for equipment. The government will bring to bear those resources such as state responders, police powers, and certain types of sensitive information to strike a balance of equal yet contrasting roles in this partnership. The MAR₂N program will emphasize proactive preparedness, safety and security through this clearinghouse of existing resources for statewide response.

